

England's Jubilee

AND

ROME'S DOWNFALL.

BEING A

PROPHESE

Delivered in the Year of our Lord 1672. at Astracan, a Populous City in Muscovy, in an Oration made upon the Burse or Exchange to Merchants of most Nations of the Universe; by the Famous Joseph-Ben-Israel; commonly called, The Wandering Jew: Predicting the Desolation of Hungary, Poland, Germany, France, and other Regions of the West; more especially Italy. And also the Glorious Propagation of the most Holy Christian Religion in its Purity: The Conversion of the Jews, and the Flourishing Condition of Denmark, Sweden, Muscovy, and other Countries in the North; particularly, England and Scotland: Whose King shall be the most Renowned Potentate in the World, and his Dominions the Sanctuary of all such as shall flee thither for Refuge: And this to come to pass in the Year of our Lord 1700.

Communicated in a Letter to a Noble Peer, as followeth:

My Lord,

I Have a Kinsman by Blood residing in *Astracan* in *Muscovy*, his Name is *Gessop*; a Man of an Ardent Spirit, and Active Wit; a great Traveller; and one who makes good that Character, by the Remarks he has made on the most important things in his way through *Europe*, *Asia* and *Affrick*. For he is not in the number of those who come home from Foreign Countries, only laden with Vanities and Trifles. From him I receive frequent Dispatches, since his being settled at *Astracan* in quality of a Merchant; where he improves his Estate to great advantage, enjoys the Innocent Pleasures of Humane Life, without suffering himself to be tainted with the Vices, which are unprofitable, troublesome, and bring scandal to a Man's Reputation.

There is a mutual Intercourse between my Cousin and me; and among other Letters which he sends me, I received one lately, wherein he informs: That he whom they call the *Wandering Jew* is now at *Astracan*: That he Preaches openly in the Markets, and at the Burse or Exchange; not refusing private Conversation with any who desire it.

There is a great conflux of People from all Nations, and of all Religions, to that City: He

carries himself with an equal indifference to every various Sect, and they all seem mightily taken with his Doctrines. The chief thing he aims at in all Discourses is, That there will ere long be an Universal Change of Religion, over all the Earth; and that every Nation on the Globe shall Worship *One God*, Blessed for ever; Obey the Law of *Jesus* the Son of *Mary*, and embrace *One Faith*. When he insists on this, he seems to be void of all Doubts and Hesitations; speaks Magisterially, like a Prophet who has received a sure and certain Revelation of the thing he foretells: But when any Dispute with him, not in a Spirit of Captiousness, but to sift the Truth, he freely condescends to answer all their Objections, and to convince them by their own Principles that it must be so.

He says, that about the Year 1700; The *Turks* shall break down the Fences of *Europe*, and shall over-flow the greatest part of Christendom like a mighty Torrent, that has over-top'd its Banks. In those days there shall be great Desolation in *Hungary*, *Poland*, *Germany*, *France*, and other Regions of the West; only *Denmark*, *Sweden*, *Muscovy*, and other Countries of the North shall remain untouched: But above all other Nations, he

says

Italy will be made a Wilderness, her Cities laid in Ashes, her Immense Wealth Plundered and Carry'd away by the greedy *Tartars*, *Arabians* and *Turks*, who will spare neither Age nor Sex, putting all to the Sword; especially the Ecclesiasticks, none of which shall escape the Publick Vengeance, save three *Cardinals*, Sincere and Holy Persons who shall flee into *England* for Sanctuary.

That Island, he says, shall become the Refuge of all such who can escape the Calamities involving the adjacent Countries: Thither they shall flock with their Wives and Children, and all their Wealth, when they shall hear of the approaching Terrors, the present Devastations of *Italy*, and the Universal Conquest of the *Osmans*. The King of the Country shall receive those Distressed Fugitives with open Arms, and shall assign them certain Portions of Land where they may build Houses and Habitations for themselves and their Families, there being abundance of Waste Ground in that Island, which they may Manure and improve, to their own and the Publick advantage.

After, says he, shall arise a certain Man in *England* from his obscure Centre; a Person filled with all manner of Divine Knowledge and Wisdom, endued with the Spirit of Prophecy, of a Graceful Aspect and Elegant Speech, of a compos'd Gravity, and calm Address; a Man Mild, Innocent, Temperate, Chaste and Merciful above the rest of Human Race: People shall let their Eyes fall on the Ground when they shall meet him in the Streets, even before they know who he is: overcome by the Lustre of Modesty, Grace and Vertue which shines in his Countenance; a Person highly belov'd of God and Man.

This Man shall meet the 3 fugitive Cardinals in an Hour of Destiny; then that which lay long smothering shall suddenly burst forth into a flame: The Light of God shall be diffused through his Soul, his Heart shall be like a Lamp, and his Tongue shall utter Marvelous Things: When he opens his Mouth in divulging the Mysteries of God, his Words shall be like the Sparks of an Eternal Fire, kindling Flames of Love in the Breasts of his Hearers. The Cardinals shall rise from their Places and run to embrace him. A Council of the Chief Bishops and Priests of the Land shall be Assembled by the King's order, where the three Cardinals also shall be present: And after Mature Deliberation, with Unanimous consent they shall call for the Holy Oyl of Consecration, and shall Anoint him, the Great Father and Patriarch of the Faithful, the Director of such as would go to Paradise.

He shall shew them a new Pattern of the Law of *Jesus* the Son of *Mary*; or rather, the Old and True one freed from the Corruptions and Errors which have been superinduced for many Ages. Their Hearts shall yield as to an Oracle, and the K. of the Country shall approve of their Council, so shall all those of the Noble and Vulgar, whose good Fate is written in their Foreheads; as for the rest they shall remain in their Incredulity.

This Holy Person shall Reform the Errors

of the Christian Churches, utterly abolish all the use of Images and Pictures; Convince the Jews of their Infidelity, and chase away the Darkness of Superstition from Earth: He shall Argue with Reasons so Forcible and Cogent, so Clear and Demonstrative, That none but the wilfully Obstinate will resist the Truth which he Divulges, or oppose his Authentick Missions: Thousands shall be Converted by the Dint of his Word, and ten Thousand by his Exemplary Life. For he shall go up and down Preaching, and doing good Works throughout *Great Britain*, till the number of his Profelytes is compleat. Then shall he send Apostles and Messengers into *Swedeland*, *Denmark*, *Muscovy*, and other Parts of *Europe* who shall likewise Convert an innumerable Multitude to his Law. Foreign Princes shall send their Ambassadors to the King of *Great Britain*, and to Him; for he shall be at the King's Right hand: They shall enter into Leagues and Covenants, and all the *Christian Princes* shall be at Unity; mighty Armies shall be raised in the North, who shall come down and give new Courage to the oppress'd *Nazarenes* of the West: They shall all take up Arms and chase the *Osmans* back again to their own Country, recovering the Wealth which they had taken from them.

After this by an Universal Agreement of the Christians, this Holy Person shall be Proclaimed, the great Pastor of the Church: A prodigious Army shall be gathered together out of all the Christian Nations, to conduct him to the Holy Land, and to Crown him in *Jerusalem*: They shall Vanquish and Exterminate the *Osmans* out of *Palestine* and all the adjacent Regions. *Jerusalem* shall be rebuilt Gloriously, and the Temple of *Solomon* with Sapphires and Emeralds: That City shall be the Seat of this New Christian Patriarch and his Successors, to the Day of Doom. Then shall the Eyes of the *Jews* be opened: They shall acknowledge *Jesus* the Son of *Mary* to be the true *Messiah*, whom they have so frequently Cursed: In a word he saith, both *Jews* and *Gentiles*, People of all Nations shall resort to *Jerusalem*, or send thither their Gifts and Presents. It shall become the Mistress of the whole Earth.

My Lord,

This is the Substance of what my Cousin *Gessop* acquaints me with, concerning the *Wandering Jew* and his new Doctrines. The Censure of which I leave to your Lordship, who have a discerning Spirit, and are able to distinguish Truth from an Imposture. God only knows what is hid in the Womb of Futurity. But that you and I may be so happy, that even in this Life we may have a taste of the Joys of Heaven, is the Prayer of

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most Affectionate
and most humble Servant,

W. G.